

**PLAINFIELD BOARD OF EDUCATION
PLAINFIELD HIGH SCHOOL LIBRARY**

January 11, 2017 7:00 P.M.

PRESENT: Doug Smith, Audrey Lemieux, Mike Cartier (7:10), Kathleen Barry, Steve Boettcher, Cheryl Hull, Kenneth Di Pietro, Superintendent; Ronald Lussier, Business Manager; Tammy St. Amour, Recorder; Student Representative, Arrianna Landry

1. **CALL TO ORDER & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Mr. Smith called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance.
2. **ROLL CALL (taken silently by Board secretary)**
3. **CONSENT AGENDA:**

MOTION: Ms. Lemieux moved to approve the Consent Agenda.

SECOND: Ms. Barry

VOTE: Passed unanimously.

The Consent Agenda consisted of:

- The minutes of the meeting of December 14, 2016.

4. **COMMUNICATIONS:**

- A. The Board was informed that there has been a reduction in the ECS money that we will be receiving this year. It has been reduced by \$72,000.
- B. Mr. Smith informed the members of the Board that there would be a Legislative Breakfast on January 23, 2017 at Brooklyn Middle School for those that would like to attend. He also said that there would be a Regional Cooperation meeting at EastConn on January 9th.
- C. The Sterling Board of Education would like to meet with Plainfield on February 15th at 7:00. There will be a representation of our Board present at the meeting but based on consensus, not all members will be able to attend.

5. **PERSONNEL:**

- A. Resignations & Appointments: A resignation was submitted from Kristen Trahan, Reading Specialist at MES.

MOTION: Ms. Barry moved to accept the resignation of Kristen Trahan.

SECOND: Ms. Lemieux

VOTE: Passed unanimously.

A resignation was also received from Rebecca Lopes, Special Education Teacher at PMS. Her last day will be on January 13, 2017.

MOTION: Ms. Barry moved to accept the letter of resignation from Rebecca Lopes.

SECOND: Ms. Lemieux

VOTE: Passed unanimously.

Ms. Tara Young has been hired to fill the half-time Preschool position at SHE as of January 3, 2017.

MOTION: Ms. Barry moved to approve the appointment of Tara Young to the half-time preschool position at SHE.

SECOND: Ms. Lemieux

VOTE: Passed unanimously.

- B. Leave of Absence: Ms. Danielle Parden submitted a request for a leave of absence for the purpose of childrearing. She will return to her position on May 1, 2017.

MOTION: Ms. Barry moved to approve the request for childrearing leave.

SECOND: Ms. Lemieux

VOTE: Passed unanimously.

6. PUBLIC FORUM:

- A. PCS Report on World Language: Mr. Gagnon, Ms. Kelleher and Ms. Hemeon spoke to the Board regarding the new World Language program at PCS. Ms. Hemeon showed a brief PowerPoint presentation overviewing the program. She said that presently the curriculum covers studies of the world cultures and some basic conversation. She said that as the program continues, eventually the eighth grade students will be able to choose either Spanish or French and take a more conversational course.
- B. Public Forum/Agenda Items: As no one came forward, the chair moved to the next item on the agenda.
- C. PHS Student Liaison Report: Arrianna Landry said that the students have mid-term exams coming up. The Talent Show is tomorrow evening. The Winter sports have started for the season and the Chamber Choir will be performing at Carnegie Hall.

7. OLD BUSINESS:

- A. Budget & Facilities Report: Mr. Lussier stated presently we are in a budget crisis. The administration is working to resolve the issue. The budget was originally a half million over budget. That amount has been reduced to just around \$90,000. He said that the State Department has sent \$286,000 for reimbursement for the roof work at MES. That check will go to the Town.

- B. FY 2018 Budget Process: The budget meetings calendar was presented to the members of the Board. It highlights the dates for each phase of the budget process. Mr. Smith asked the members of the board for their approval of the dates that have been set for the budget development.

MOTION: Ms. Lemieux moved to approve the 2018 Budget Calendar as presented.

SECOND: Mr. Cartier

VOTE: Passed unanimously.

Mr. Di Pietro also presented the members of the Board with a copy of the budget priorities that they had set last year. He asked if there were any revisions or additions to the priorities that need to be addressed during the budget process. The Board agreed that they priorities that were previously set are still viable.

MOTION: Ms. Barry moved to approve the Budget Priorities as presented.

SECOND: Ms. Lemieux

VOTE: Passed unanimously.

- C. Capital Improvement 5-Year Plan: The board was given the listing of the items that the Board believes to be the priorities that should be included in the budget over the next five fiscal years. No Changes were made to the Plan.

MOTION: Ms. Lemieux moved to approve the 5-Year Capital Improvement Plan.

SECOND: Ms. Barry

VOTE: Passed unanimously.

- D. Town vote on Supplemental Appropriation: Mr. Di Pietro said that the Board had requested \$50,000 in supplemental funding from the Town. The meeting was held on January 7th and the appropriation was approved. Mr. Di Pietro thanked the Town and the public for their support.

8. NEW BUSINESS:

- A. Paraprofessional Contract Ratification: Mr. Di Pietro stated that the Paraprofessional Union has ratified their new contract. He said that the members of the Board had been presented with the contract and asked for their vote on the contract.

MOTION: Ms. Barry moved to approve the new Paraprofessional Contract

SECOND: Ms. Lemieux

VOTE: Passed with abstention from Mr. Smith.

- B. PEA Contract Ratification: Mr. Di Pietro said that the Teachers' Union has also ratified their new contract. This contract will be for two year rather than the typical three year contract.

MOTION: Ms. Barry moved to approve the contract for the Plainfield Education Association.
SECOND: Ms. Lemieux
VOTE: Passed unanimously.

C. Second Reading of Policies 7013 Safety, and 7004 Indoor Air Quality: Mr. Smith said that the policies have been on the webpage for a month. He said that he was not informed of any changes that need to be made.

MOTION: Ms. Lemieux moved to approve the revisions to the policies.
SECOND: Ms. Barry
VOTE: Passed unanimously.

D. Superintendent's Report: Mr. Di Pietro said that he included his information in previous agenda items.

9. STANDING COMMITTEES AND INDIVIDUAL REPORTS:

10. ADJOURNMENT:

MOTION: Ms. Lemieux moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:56 p.m.
SECOND: Ms. Hull
VOTE: Passed unanimously.